

Application No. 10/748,933
Amendment dated FEBRUARY 24, 2006
Reply to Office Action dated November 25, 2005

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 22, as indicated:

The proximal portion 44 of the member 38 can be secured to the distal portion 28 of the tubular member 26 using any suitable attachment means. Illustrative attachment means include welding, soldering, brazing, crimping, heat bonding, adhesive bonding, mechanical bonding, the use of an ~~expandible~~ expandable alloy, or the like. Some example embodiments of techniques and structures used to connect different structures in medical devices are disclosed in U.S. Patent Application Nos. 09/972,276 now U.S. Patent No. 6,918,882 ~~entitled "GUIDEWIRE WITH STIFFNESS BLENDING CONNECTION" filed on October 5, 2001,~~ and 10/086,992 entitled "COMPOSITE GUIDEWIRE" filed on February 28, 2002, both of which are incorporated herein by reference. Some additional examples of suitable interconnection techniques are disclosed in a U.S. Patent Application Nos. 10/375,766 entitled "COMPOSITE MEDICAL DEVICE" filed on February 26, 2003, and 10/376,068 entitled "ELONGATED INTRACORPORAL MEDICAL DEVICE", filed on February 26, 2003, both of which are also incorporated herein by reference. In some particular embodiments, laser welding can be employed to attach the coil member 38 to the tubular member 26, resulting in welds 49 (Fig. 3).

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 30, as indicated:

In embodiments where different portions of core member 16 are made of different material, the different portions can be connected using any suitable connecting techniques. For example, the different portions can be connected using welding, soldering, brazing, adhesive, or the like, or combinations thereof. Additionally, some embodiments can include one or more mechanical connectors or connector assemblies to connect the different portions of the core wire that are made of different materials. The connector may include any structure generally suitable for connecting portions of a guidewire. One example of a suitable structure includes a structure such as a hypotube or a coiled wire which has an inside diameter sized appropriately to receive and connect to the ends of the proximal portion 22 and the distal portion 18. Some other examples of suitable techniques and structures that can be used to

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interconnect different shaft sections are disclosed in U.S. Patent Application Nos. 09/972,276 now U.S. Patent No. 6,918,882 ~~entitled "GUIDEWIRE WITH STIFFNESS-BLENDING CONNECTION" filed on October 5, 2001~~, and 10/086,992 entitled "COMPOSITE GUIDEWIRE" filed on February 28, 2002, both of which are incorporated herein by reference. Some additional examples of suitable interconnection techniques are disclosed in a U.S. Patent Application Nos. 10/375,766 entitled "COMPOSITE MEDICAL DEVICE" filed on February 26, 2003, and 10/376,068 entitled "ELONGATED INTRACORPORAL MEDICAL DEVICE", filed on February 26, 2003, both of which are also incorporated herein by reference.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 18, line 30, as indicated:

It should be understood that distal tip assemblies in accordance with the invention can be used and/or incorporated into a broad variety of medical device constructions, and that the above embodiments are provided by way of example only. Some examples of additional medical device constructions are shown and described in U.S. Patent Application Nos. 09/972,276 now U.S. Patent No. 6,918,882 ~~entitled "GUIDEWIRE WITH STIFFNESS-BLENDING CONNECTION" filed on October 5, 2001~~; 10/086,992 entitled "COMPOSITE GUIDEWIRE" filed on February 28, 2002; 10/375,766 entitled "COMPOSITE MEDICAL DEVICE" filed on February 26, 2003; and 10/376,068 entitled "ELONGATED INTRACORPORAL MEDICAL DEVICE", filed on February 26, 2003, all of which are incorporated herein by reference.